

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Patent Claims

What is claimed is:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A device for blocking and adjusting the
2 inclination of fittings, in particular for adjusting the inclination with respect to each
3 other of two components situated on a vehicle seat, such as a seat part and a
4 backrest part, having comprising a first fitting part (1) which has a latching
5 tooth latch tooth (1a), and a latching latch element (2) which has having a
6 mating latching tooth latch tooth (2a), the latching tooth latch tooth (1a) and
7 the mating latching tooth latch tooth (2a) being able to be brought into
8 engagement and being able to be arrested in the engagement position by means of a
9 clamping element (3) which is under the force of a spring (5), acts on the latching
10 element (2) and is movable counter to the force of the spring (5) via adjusting
11 means, characterized in that the clamping element (3) has comprising a tooth (3b)
12 in which coupled to a mating tooth (4a) situated on a toothed element (4)
13 comprising a mating tooth engages, the force of the spring (5) acting on the
14 toothed element (4) and acting indirectly on the clamping element (3) via the
15 tooth (3b) and mating tooth (4a).

1 2. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1,
2 characterized in that wherein the spring (5) forms a constructional unit (E) with the
3 toothed element (4).

1 3. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 1 or 2,
2 characterized in that wherein the first fitting part (1), the latching element (2), the
3 clamping element (3) and the toothed element (4) can be pivoted relative to one
4 another about respective pivot axes (X1, X2, X3, X4) preferably wherein the
5 respective pivot axes being arranged parallel to one another.

1 4. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 3, characterized in that wherein~~ the spring (5) is designed as a torsion spring.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 4, characterized in that wherein~~ the spring (5) is designed as a leg spring.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 4, characterized in that wherein~~ the spring (5) is designed as a spiral spring, in
3 particular as a flat spiral spring.

1 7. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 6, characterized in that the clamping element (3) has, for moving the latching~~
3 ~~element (2), further comprising~~ a control contour (3a) for interacting with a
4 corresponding control contour (2a) of the latching element (2).

1 8. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 7, characterized in that wherein~~ the first fitting part (1), the latching element
3 (2), the clamping element (3) and/or the toothed element (4) ~~have each have a~~
4 fastening openings opening (O1, O2, O3, O4) arranged in particular concentrically
5 about their respective pivot axes (X1, X2, X3, X4).

1 9. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 8, characterized in that wherein~~ the toothing (3b) of the clamping element (3)
3 and the mating toothing (4a) of the toothed element (4) are each an external
4 ~~toothings toothing designed at least in the manner of segments segment.~~

1 10. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 9, characterized in that wherein~~ the latching element (2), the clamping element
3 (3) and the toothed element (4) are fastened to a second fitting part (6).

1 11. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 10, characterized in that wherein~~ the toothed element (4) ~~is composed of~~
3 comprises an outer ring (4b) and an inner ring (4c) which are braced against each
4 other by the spring (5).

1 12. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 11,
2 ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the spring (5) is arranged concentrically with and
3 between the outer ring (4b) and the inner ring (4c) ~~and between the outer ring (4b)~~
4 ~~and the inner ring (4c).~~

1 13. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 12, characterized in that the further comprising an~~ adjusting means for moving
3 the clamping element ~~element~~, ~~(3)~~ are formed from comprising at least one
4 transmission rod which acts on the clamping element ~~(3)~~ and/or on the toothed
5 element ~~(4)~~ and in particular engages axially in the respective fastening opening
6 (Θ_3 , Θ_4) thereof.

1 14. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 13, characterized in that wherein the spring (5) has a rising, in particular a~~
3 linearly rising, force/travel characteristic.

1 15. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~8 to 14, characterized in that wherein a respective fine toothing (F3, F4) is provided~~
3 around the periphery of the fastening openings (Θ_3 , Θ_4) of clamping element ~~(3)~~
4 and/or toothed element ~~(4)~~.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim
2 ~~1 to 15, characterized in that wherein a molded part (7) which can be inserted for~~
3 insertion into the clamping element ~~(3)~~ and/or toothed element ~~(4)~~, in particular can
4 be pressed into the fastening openings (Θ_3 , Θ_4) of clamping element ~~(3)~~ and/or
5 toothed element ~~(4)~~ and is intended configured for receiving one end of a
6 transmission rod used as the adjusting means, the molded part ~~(7)~~ being of a
7 bushing-like design and having a profiled inner contour (K_7) in its fastening
8 opening (Θ_7).

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